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ABSTRACT

The backwoods county seat of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina, was the site of a pivotal battle on March 15, 1781, in the Revolutionary War's decisive southern campaign. The engagement set the stage for the region's liberation from enemy occupation and impelled British general Lord Charles Cornwallis to take the ill-fated road that led him to final defeat at Yorktown, Virginia, seven months later. This lesson is based on the National Register of Historic Places registration file, the National Park Service's visitor's guide, and "Another Such Victory" (Thomas E. Baker.) The lesson can be used in units on the U.S. Revolutionary War or in courses on conflict resolution. Students practice skills using and evaluating primary sources from the 18th and 19th centuries and in analyzing judgments and decisions made by historical figures. The seven objectives of this lesson plan are: (1) "About This Lesson"; (2) "Setting the Stage: Historical Context"; (3) "Locating the Site: Maps" (Guilford Courthouse and Surrounding Area; Battle of Guildford [sic]); (4) "Determining the Facts: Readings" (The Battle of Guilford Courthouse; The Generals' Report on the Battle; Other Judgments, Public and Private); (5) "Visual Evidence: Images" (Cavalry Monument; General Greene Monument); (6) "Putting It All Together: Activities" (Eyewitness Accounts; Hold a Debate; War and Public Opinion; Monuments to War); (7) "Supplementary Resources." (BT)

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Guilford Courthouse: A Pivotal Battle in the War for Independence

The morning of March 15, 1781, was clear and cold. A light frost had disappeared under the first rays of the sun, but the ground underfoot was soft and spongy from long winter rains and snows. In the damp woods of what had been an isolated farming community in the Piedmont on a major east-west road through North Carolina, some 4,400 American troops, in various uniforms and country clothes, waited for battle.

This backwoods county seat of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina, was the site of a pivotal battle in the Revolutionary War's decisive Southern Campaign. The engagement set the stage for the region's liberation from enemy occupation and impelled British general Lord Charles Cornwallis to take the ill-fated road that led him to final defeat at Yorktown, Virginia, seven months later.

(Guilford Courthouse National Military Park)

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, the nation's first national park established at a Revolutionary War site, preserves the 220-acre heart of the 1781 battlefield. Among the 28 monuments raised on the battlefield is a memorial containing the graves of two of North Carolina's signers of the Declaration of Independence, William Hooper and John Penn. Although Guilford Courthouse is 600 miles south of Philadelphia and Independence Hall, it is appropriate that this monument stands at the site of one of the most important battles of the Revolutionary War. It was the sacrifices of American patriots on this and scores of other battlefields that gave substance to the bold statements of principle contained in the Declaration of Independence.

This lesson is based on the on the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, one of thousands of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

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About This Lesson

This lesson is based on the National Register of Historic Places registration file "Guilford Courthouse National Military Park," the National Park Service's visitor's guide, and Another Such Victory by Thomas E. Baker. It was written by Thomas E. Baker, a former Park Ranger and Educational Coordinator at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.

Where it fits into the curriculum

Topics: The lesson could be used in units on the Revolutionary War or in courses on conflict resolution. Students will practice skills using and evaluating primary sources from the 18th and 19th centuries and in analyzing judgments and decisions made by historical figures.

Time period: Late 18th century

Objectives for students

1) To analyze conflicting written evidence and make reasoned judgments of the essential facts about the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.

2) To analyze statistical data to draw conclusions about the outcome of the battle.

3) To assess the aftermath of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse and explain its effect on the outcome of the Revolutionary War.

4) To examine their own community for monuments erected to commemorate wars.

Materials for students

The materials listed can be used directly on the computer or can be printed out, photocopied, and distributed to students.

1) two maps of Guilford Courthouse and the battlefield;

2) three readings describing the battle, the generals' report on the battle, and other public and private judgements about what happened;

3) two photographs of Cavalry Monument and the General Greene Monument.

Visiting the site

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, administered by the National Park Service, is located on U.S. Highway 220 North, in Greensboro, North Carolina. The park is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day of the year, except January 1 and December 25. For more information, write the Superintendent, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, 2332 New Garden Road, Greensboro, NC 24710-2355 or visit the park's Web page at http://www.nps.gov/guco/

Setting the Stage

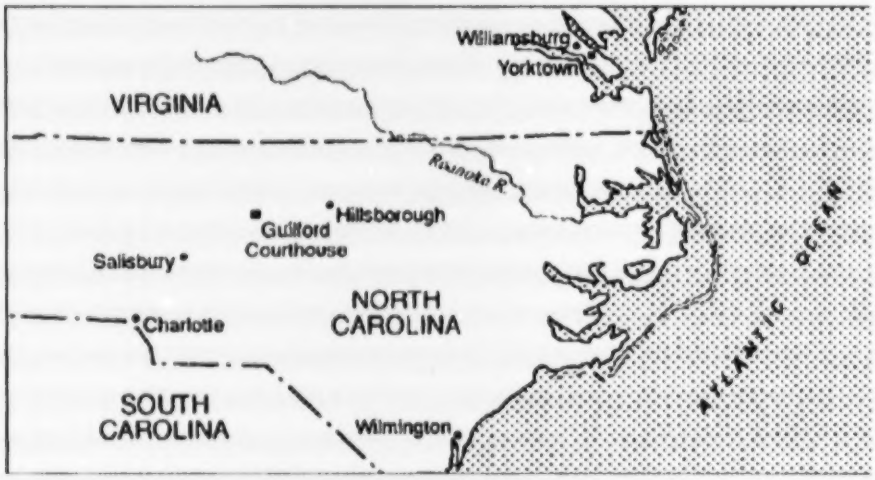
The Revolutionary War began at Lexington, Massachusetts in April 1775. For the next three years most of the heaviest fighting occurred in the northern colonies. This situation was altered when, in the aftermath of a surprising American victory at Saratoga, New York, France became America's first significant ally. Knowing that French aid would make it more difficult to defeat the Americans, the British changed their strategy.

Beginning in 1778, the British stopped actively pursuing their Northern Campaign and directed most of their efforts toward subjugating the southern colonies. In large measure, this decision was based on the mistaken belief that most Southerners were loyalists who would actively help the redcoats. Although this assumption proved false, the British did win many significant victories before fortune turned against them. They took the two greatest seaports in the South, Savannah and Charleston, and also destroyed two American armies.

American fortunes began to improve in late 1780 when Gen. George Washington sent his best subordinate, Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene of Rhode Island, to take command in the South. Knowing that the resistance in the South would collapse if he could destroy Greene's army, the British commanding general, Lord Charles Cornwallis, struggled to bring on a climactic battle. General Greene, equally determined to avoid a battle until his army had reached its peak strength, temporarily gave up great areas to British occupation to buy time. Finally, Greene decided that his army, consisting of 4,400 troops, was ready to confront Lord Cornwallis and his 1,900 redcoats. The place chosen for this engagement was Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina, and the date was March 15, 1781.

In the months that followed, the results of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse became clear. Serious losses of manpower left the British too weak to occupy even outposts in North Carolina. Further, they were unable to pursue the defeated, but essentially intact, army of Nathanael Greene. Instead, after burying their dead and collecting the wounded, they marched away on March 18 toward the British outpost at Wilmington, North Carolina, where they hoped to find provisions shipped to them from Charleston. While at Wilmington, Lord Cornwallis made the fatal decision to lead his army into Virginia, where seven months later he would meet final defeat at Yorktown. Meanwhile, the "defeated" Americans at Guilford Courthouse marched south and fought battles that liberated South Carolina and Georgia from British control.

Locating the Site
Map 1: Guilford Courthouse and Surrounding Area



The Guilford Courthouse battlefield is located within the northwest boundary of modern Greensboro, North Carolina.

Questions for Map 1

1. Using a general map of the United States, locate the northern colonies of Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. It is in these colonies that the heaviest fighting occurred from 1775 to 1780. Now locate Saratoga, New York. Why is this battle significant to the American Revolution?

2. Using Map 1, note the location of Guilford Courthouse. Now locate Wilmington, North Carolina and Yorktown, Virginia. Based on the what you have learned thus far, explain the significance of these sites. Why was the control of American seaports so important to the British during the war?

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Locating the Site
Map 2: Battle of Guildford (Sic)

BATTLE OF GUILDFORD,
Fought on the 15th of March 1781.
One English Mile.
British
Americans
A. The Advance of Part of the Continentals who broke the British Center, and afterwards fell back to their original position.
Court House
ORDER OF BATTLE

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This map was published in 1787 in Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Campaigns of 1780 and 1781 in the Southern Provinces of North America. It was based on a map drawn in the field by one of Cornwallis's army engineers.

Questions for Map 2

1. Note the location of the Courthouse, which gave its name to the battle, and also the farm which is found above the words "Order of Battle." The British army marched over the plowed fields of the farm as it attacked the American first line. The farmhouse (the small black square) appears just above the line of battle.

2. Study the map carefully and then list things it tells you about the community and the topographical layout of the area in which the battle took place.

3. Using the scale given, how far was the battle from the county seat of Guilford Courthouse? Why do you think the battle was named after Guilford Courthouse? What are some other ways in which battles are named?

4. The details and scale of the battlefield are quite accurate, but the north point should be rotated 50 degrees to the left for proper orientation. Use a pencil and protractor to correct the directional error on your copy of the map. Why might such a basic error occur on an otherwise accurate map?

Determining the Facts

Reading 1: The Battle of Guilford Courthouse

On the bright, late winter day of March 15, 1781, the Revolutionary War came to a remote county seat in north central North Carolina. Guilford Courthouse, with its population of considerably fewer than 100, was on this day the temporary residence of 4,400 American soldiers and their leader, Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene. The British had overrun Georgia and South Carolina and showed every indication of ripping the stars and stripes of North Carolina and Virginia from the new American flag. From the ragged remnants of a defeated southern army, Greene had raised a new force comprising 1,700 Continentals (three-year enlistees in the regular army) and about 2,700 militia (mostly farmers who were nonprofessional temporary soldiers called up for short periods of service during an emergency). Early on the morning of March 15, General Greene deployed his men in three lines of battle across the Great Salisbury Wagon Road that led off to the southwest toward the camp of the British army commanded by Lord Charles Cornwallis. Although grossly outnumbered, Cornwallis nonetheless was certain that his redcoats, victors on scores of battlefields, could overcome the rebels.

The battle began about noon and progressed unevenly. The first line of the North Carolina militia, its center deployed behind a rail fence facing cleared farm fields and its flanks extending into the forest, collapsed rapidly after the center of the line gave way. Before they retreated, however, the militia inflicted heavy casualties on the redcoats. One British officer later recalled that when his men of the 71st Highland Regiment were hit by a volley (a simultaneous discharge of firearms, in this case 1,500 muskets), "one half of the Highlanders dropped on that spot."[1]

The second line proved to be an even greater obstacle for the British. Located in heavy forest and with noncommissioned officers ordered to shoot any men who ran away, the Virginia militia grappled with their attackers for about an hour in an action a British writer later described as "a number of irregular, but hard fought and bloody skirmishes."[2] After enduring more heavy losses, the redcoats finally were able to break through.

The heaviest fighting took place on the third line where General Greene had stationed his Continentals. Even here the intensity of the fighting varied; some new Continentals retreated after offering only token resistance, while other, more experienced soldiers fought furiously. In the final stages of the fighting Lord Cornwallis found portions of his army under simultaneous attack from two directions, as if caught between hammer and anvil. He extricated his men by firing two cannon directly into the mass of struggling soldiers, as if to blast them apart. A number of his own soldiers were killed in the process (another British officer, Brig. Gen. Charles O'Hara, begged him not to do it), but when the smoke cleared the battle was over. General Greene had ordered his army to

retreat, leaving the British in possession of the battlefield.

Questions for Reading 1

1. What was the difference between Continentals and militia?

2. Which battle line saw the heaviest fighting? What happened?

3. Which side won the Battle of Guilford Courthouse?

4. In your own words, how did Cornwallis put an end to the fighting? If you had been in charge of the British troops, would you have made the same decision? Why or why not?

5. Compare Reading 1 and Map 2. Does the map accurately portray the scene described?

Reading 1 was adapted from Thomas E. Baker, Another Such Victory (Philadelphia: Eastern National Park and Monument Association, 1981).

[1] Eli Caruthers, Revolutionary Incidents: and Sketches of Character, Chiefly in the Old North State, Second Series, (Philadelphia, 1856).

[2] Major Rowland-Broughton Mainwaring, Historical Record of the Royal Welch Fusiliers (London, 1889), 101.

Determining the Facts

Reading 2: The General';s Report on the Battle

Cornwallis to Lord George Germain, March 17, 1781:

My Lord,
I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship that His Majesty's Troops under my command obtained a signal victory on the 15th Inst[ant] over the Rebel Army commanded by General Greene....The conduct and actions of the officers and soldiers that compose this little army will do more justice to their merit than I can by words. Their persevering intrepidity in action, their invincible patience in the hardship and fatigue of a march of above 600 miles, in which they forded several large rivers, and numberless Creeks, many of which would be reckoned large rivers in any other country in the world, without tents or covering against the climate, and often without provisions, will sufficiently manifest their ardent zeal for the honor and interests of their Sovereign and their Country....I have the honor to inclose to your Lordship the list of our killed and wounded....

Unit:	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Total
Royal Artillery	2	4	0	6
Brigade of Guards	37	157	22	216
23rd Regiment	13	55	0	68
33rd	11	63	0	74
71st	13	50	0	63
Regt. von Bose [Hessians]	10	67	3	80
Yager [Hessians]	4	3	1	8
British Legion [cavalry]	3	14	0	17
TOTALS	93	413	26	532

Compiled from Walter Clark, ed., State Records of North Carolina, vol. XVII(Goldsboro, N.C., 1899), 1002-1007.

Nathanael Greene reports to Governor Abner Nash of North Carolina Camp near the Iron Works, March 18th, 9 a.m., 1781:

Time will not permit me to be very particular, and therefore I shall only Confirm the account of there having been an action on the 15th. The battle was fought near Guilford Court House. It was long and severe. We gave up the ground and were obliged to leave our artillery, all the horses being killed. We retreated in good order....The Enemy loss is

very great, much more than ours. We ought to have had a victory, and had your Militia stood by their officers it was certain. However the enemy have gained no advantage, except the ground and field pieces. Their operating force is diminished in such a manner, that I am not without hope of turning their victory into defeat, if the Militia don't leave me....

Quoted from Richard K. Showman and Dennis M. Conrad, eds., The Papers of General Nathanael Greene, vol. VII (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1994), 448.

On March 16, Greene's adjutant, Col. O. H. Williams compiled a list of casualties to send to Samuel Huntington, President of Congress:

Unit:	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Total
Virginia Regulars	29	40	39	108
Maryland Regulars	15	42	97	154
Del. Batt'n	7	13	15	35
VA Militia, lst Brig.	11	36	141	188
VA Militia, 2nd Brig.	1	16	87	104
Rifle Regts.	3	16	94	113
Cavalry	3	8	3	14
Partizan Legion	3	8	7	18
NC Cavalry	1	1	0	2
NC Militia	6	5	563	574
TOTALS	79	185	1,046	1,310

NOTE: Most of the missing Americans were militiamen who simply went home after the battle. For this reason, most authorities figure total American casualties as 264 killed and wounded.

Compiled from Banastre Tarleton, The Campaigns of 1780 and 1781 in the Southern Provinces of North America (London, 1787), 317-20.

Questions for Reading 2

1. Does Lord Cornwallis sound like a victorious general? Does he claim the victory?

2. Does Greene sound like a victorious general? Does he claim the victory?

3. Based on the total casualty figures for both armies, what would be your assessment of the winner and loser of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse? Explain your answer. Now compute and compare the percentages of killed and wounded British and American soldiers. How would you assess the outcome of the battle based on these figures? Do you think numerical analysis is the best way to answer this question? Can you suggest other grounds on which to assess the outcome of the battle?

Determining the Facts
Reading 3: Other Judgments, Public and Private

Such was the strange and untoward nature of this war, that victory now, as we have already seen in more than one other instance, was productive of all the consequences of defeat. The news of this victory in England, for a while, produced the usual effects upon the minds of the people in general. A very little time and reflection gave rise to other thoughts; and a series of victories caused for the first time, the beginning of a general despair. The fact was, that while the British army astonished both the old and new world, by the greatness of its exertions and the rapidity of its marches, it had never advanced any nearer even to the conquest of North Carolina. And such was the hard fate of the victors, who had gained so much glory at Guilford, as in the first place, to abandon a part of their wounded; and, in the second, to make a circuitous retreat of 200 miles, before they could find shelter or rest.

Quoted from the Annual Register for 1781 (London, 1782), 71-2.

When the casualty lists for Guilford Courthouse reached London, Charles James Fox, leader of the Parliamentary opposition to the war, exclaimed on the floor of the House of Commons: "Another such victory would ruin the British army!"

When General Greene's report of the battle reached Philadelphia, it was published under this headline: GOOD NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

Quoted from Thomas E. Baker, Another Such Victory (Philadelphia: Eastern National Park and Monument Association, 1981), 77-78.

Questions for Reading 3

1. How would you characterize British short-term and long-term reactions to the Battle of Guilford Courthouse? If there is a difference between the two reactions, which reaction is more important? Why?

2. How do you account for Charles James Fox's statement that victory of the type won at Guilford Courthouse would ruin the British Army?

3. Why would the Philadelphia newspaper herald the battle as "good news"?

Visual Evidence
Photo 1: Cavalry Monument.

(Guilford Courthouse National Military Park)

Photo 1 shows the Cavalry Monument, which was erected in 1909 by the Guilford Battle

Ground Company in honor of the American horsemen who fought in the final stage of the battle.

The first of two inscriptions reads:

> TO THE MARQUIS OF BRITIGNY AND COL. WM. WASHINGTON WHO WITH THEIR NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA CAVALRY CHARGED AND RAN THROUGH AND OVER THE 2ND. QUEEN'S GUARDS IN THE VALLEY BELOW.

The second inscription reads:

> TO PETER FRANCISCO, A GIANT IN STATURE, MIGHT, AND COURAGE WHO SLEW IN THIS ENGAGEMENT ELEVEN OF THE ENEMY WITH HIS OWN BROAD SWORD RENDERING HIMSELF THEREBY THE MOST FAMOUS PRIVATE SOLDIER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

Photo 2: Gen. Nathanael Greene Monument.

(Guilford Courthouse National Military Park)

Photo 2 shows a monument erected in 1915 to honor General Greene. It is located on the American Second Line.

The inscription reads:

MARCH XV MDCCLXXXI
IN THE MANOEUVERING THAT PRECEDED IT, IN THE STRATEGY THAT COMPELLED IT, IN THE HEROISM THAT SIGNALIZED IT, AND IN THE RESULTS THAT FLOWED FROM IT THE BATTLE OF GUILFORD COURT HOUSE IS SECOND TO NO BATTLE FOUGHT ON AMERICAN SOIL. OVER THE BRAVE MEN WHO FELL HERE THEIR COMRADES MARCHED TO ULTIMATE VICTORY AT YORKTOWN, AND THE CAUSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL SELF-GOVERNMENT TO ASSURED TRIUMPH AT PHILADELPHIA. TO OFFICER AND PRIVATE, TO CONTINENTAL SOLDIER AND VOLUNTEER MILITIAMAN, HONOR AND AWARD ARE ALIKE DUE. THEY NEED NEITHER DEFENSE NOR EULOGY BUT ONLY JUST RECOGNITION. A GRATEFUL NATION ERECTS THIS MONUMENT, THEREFORE, AS AN EXPRESSION OF ITS SOLEMN PRIDE IN THE MEN WHO FOUGHT HERE, OF ITS IMPERISHABLE DEVOTION TO THEIR MEMORY, AND OF ITS UNALTERABLE CONFIDENCE IN THE PERMANENCE OF THE PRINCIPLES WHICH THEIR EXAMPLE VINDICATED AND THEIR BLOOD CONSECRATED.

On the face of the main pedestal are these words:

NATHANAEL GREENE
APPOINTED MAJOR GENERAL IN COMMAND OF THE SOUTHERN ARMY
OCTOBER 14, 1780
BORN IN RHODE ISLAND AUGUST 7, 1742
DIED IN GEORGIA JUNE 19, 1786

On two sides of the monument are the names of the battles Greene fought in.

On the third side is an inscription that reads:

IT IS WITH A PLEASURE WHICH FRIENDSHIP ALONE IS SUSCEPTIBLE OF THAT I CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE GLORIOUS END YOU HAVE PUT TO HOSTILITIES IN THE SOUTHERN STATES. WASHINGTON

On the fourth side of the monument is this inscription:

GREENE IS AS DANGEROUS AS WASHINGTON I NEVER FEEL SECURE WHEN ENCAMPED IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD. CORNWALLIS

Questions for Photos 1 & 2

1. Some 28 monuments, ranging in height from two and one-half feet to more than 27 feet, were erected on the battleground between 1887 and 1931. Why do you think it took so long for the nation to mark the sacrifice of the men who died on the battlefield? What other wars took place between the War for Independence and 1887?

2. What do these inscriptions tell us about how those who erected the monument regarded those who fought at Guilford? What do they tell us

about Cornwallis' opinion of Greene? Washington's opinion?

3. By the 1880s, Americans had forgotten, or chose to ignore, the fact that Guilford Courthouse would ever have been considered an American defeat. Why do you think that might have been?

4. What purpose do monuments serve? Do these monuments help you better understand this battle's significance in the Revolutionary War? Why or why not?

Putting It All Together

Following the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greene marched south and regained control of South Carolina from the British. In April, Cornwallis set out to conquer Virginia. This fateful campaign ended with his defeat at Yorktown on October 19, 1781. Although peace was not official until 1783, the outcome of the war was determined when Cornwallis surrendered. The following activities will encourage students to consider validating different historical sources and understand why monuments are erected.

Activity 1: Eyewitness Accounts

Eyewitness testimony, such as that provided by General Greene and Lord Cornwallis, is an important type of evidence. Have students consider if there are people in their community who have witnessed significant events such as battles of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or natural disasters such as floods, tornados, or earthquakes. Invite one or more such eyewitnesses to speak to the class and give their perspectives on what happened. Have students compare what they learned with what they can read in history texts or in newspaper articles. Then hold a general classroom discussion based on these questions: How do the eyewitness accounts differ from textbook coverage? Do they provide the "big" picture or only one part of the story? Do the textbook accounts or the eyewitness stories engage your emotions the most? Why do you think historians depend so much on eyewitness accounts? Why would they feel it necessary to check such accounts for accuracy?

Activity 2: Hold a Debate

Hold an informal classroom debate in which one side supports the contention that the British won the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, and the other maintains that the British lost (or the Americans won) at Guilford Courthouse. Have students use the readings for information on which to base their arguments. They may also wish to check U.S. history textbooks and books about the Revolutionary War that may be in the school library.

Activity 3: War and Public Opinion

The quotation from the Annual Register for 1781 in Reading 3 suggests that British public opinion turned against the war because of costly battles like Guilford Courthouse. Do students think that public opinion was considered as important in 18th-century Great Britain as it is in modern United States? Ask them to justify their answer. Do they think we determine public opinion in the same way now? Have them use newspapers and magazines, as well as general history books, to find information about the impact of public opinion on wars. As they conduct their research, have them take into account that newspapers may voice a minority opinion, and opinion polls can be skewed just as battle statistics can. Can they think of any methods that might be used to determine

what the public really thinks about a particular issue? Ask them to write an essay explaining their point of view on this question.

Activity 4: Monuments to War

If there is a Revolutionary site in the local community or region, ask students to visit it and then compare its role in the outcome of the Revolution with that of Guilford Courthouse. Now divide students into small groups and have them try to find monuments in their community that commemorate the Revolutionary War or any of the wars in which Americans have fought. Have each group complete the following exercises for the monument they choose. Take photos of the monument and copy the inscriptions. Analyze the type of language that is used on monuments. What is the monument designed to represent? Does it commemorate a specific battle? Did citizens of your community or region participate in that battle? Why was the monument erected in that particular spot? Now choose any battle of any war and make a sketch of a monument that memorializes the event in a proper manner. Finally, develop a fitting inscription for the monument. After the groups have completed the activity, have them arrange the works for a display on a bulletin board or a hallway showcase. Wrap up the activity by holding a classroom discussion on why monuments are erected and what they mean to the students.

Guilford Courthouse: A Pivotal Battle in the War for Independence --Supplementary Resources

By looking at Guilford Courthouse: A Pivotal Battle in the War for Independence, students can learn how the deceptive results of this battle in the backwoods of North Carolina helped set the stage for American victory. Those interested in learning more will find that the Internet offers a variety of interesting materials.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park http://www.nps.gov/guco/
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park is a unit of the National Park System. The park's Web page details the history of the park and visitation information.

National Park Service: American Revolution Web Page http://www.nps.gov/revwar/
The National Park Service maintains its own American Revolution Web Page, which provides a listing of the Park units with connections to the Revolutionary War and colonial America, information on special activities in the Parks celebrating the 225th anniversary of the war, and a timeline of events in the pivotal year of the American Revolution, 1775.

NPS Southeastern Archeology Center http://www.cr.nps.gov/seac/seac.htm
The National Park Service's Southeastern Archeology Center Web page provides an excellent narrative on the Revolutionary War and the significance of the southern campaign. Scroll down to "The American Revolution: the War in the South." Also produced by the Southeastern Archeology Center, the "Southern Campaign of the American Revolution" [http://www.cr.nps.gov/seac/socamp.htm] provides further information on British strategy and generals involved in the campaign.

State Library of North Carolina
http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/nc/ncsites/greensbo/guilf1.htm
Visit the State Library of North Carolina Web site to discover a wealth of information on the historical background of the battle of Guilford Courthouse, the establishment of the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, and other battles of the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War.

North Carolina's Historical People and Places
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/nchistorical/guilford.html
The state of North Carolina developed the North Carolina's Historical People and Places Web page for educators. The site offers information on a variety of different historic sites and history topics, including a resource page when you click on the Revolutionary War link that allows access to numerous Web pages dealing different aspects of the American Revolution.

Library of Congress http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/mdbquery.html
For a variety of resources on the American Revolution, Nathanael Greene, and Guilford Courthouse, search the American Memory Collection at the Library of Congress.

USHISTORY.ORG http://www.ushistory.org/brandywine/brandywine.htm
For information about Gen. Nathanael Greene and the significant role he played in the Revolutionary War, visit the USHISTORY.ORG Web page.

The Papers of Nathanael Greene http://mep.cla.sc.edu/ng/ng-table.html
The Model Editions Partnership Web page provides a comprehensive compilation of Nathanael Greene's papers. Greene is considered to be the best strategist of the American Revolution and one of the greatest military minds the United States has ever produced. The Greene Papers Project has been in existence since 1971, and is publishing the nearly 10,000 letters and orders written by and to Nathanael Greene. Read about the man and his military career or search through his letters, which include military orders, petitions, court martials, and general military business, as well as personal correspondence.

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